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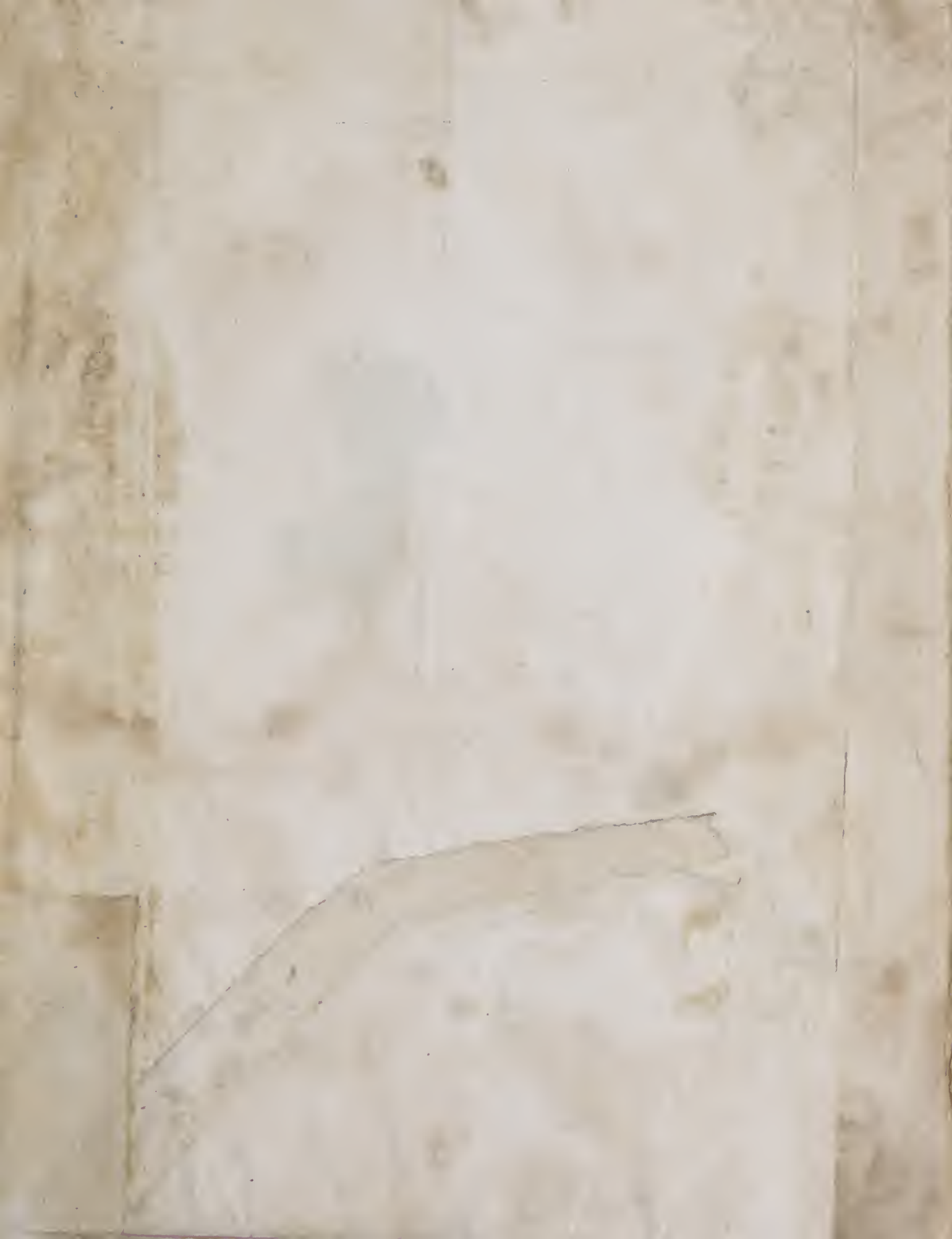
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A
JOURNAL OF A JOURNEY

FROM THE
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.



A MAP

of the Eastern part of the Southern Extremity of AFRICA

(compiled by EDWARD RIOU)

For the purpose of illustrating the Journal of
Jacob Van Reenen, who (with several others of his countrymen)

in the Years 1790 and 1791,

Travelled in search of the Crew and Wreck of the
Hon.^{ble} the East India Company's Ship, the

GROSVENOR.



Remark

† Wreck of the Grosvenor computed to be in this parallel, by the journey Outward of 226 leagues, from leaving Great Fish River.

A
JOURNAL OF A JOURNEY

FROM THE
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE,

UNDERTAKEN IN 1790 AND 1791,

BY
JACOB VAN REENEN,
AND OTHERS OF HIS COUNTRYMEN.

IN SEARCH OF THE WRECK OF THE HONOURABLE THE EAST INDIA
COMPANY'S SHIP

THE GROSVENOR;

To discover if there remained alive any of the unfortunate sufferers.

WITH ADDITIONAL NOTES, AND A MAP,

BY
CAPT. EDW. RIOU.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR G. NICOL,
BOOKSELLER TO HIS MAJESTY, PALL-MALL.

MDCCXCII.

INTRODUCTION.

THIS Journey was undertaken during my residence at the Cape of Good Hope: And had it not been that the duties of my station would not permit so long an absence, I certainly should have endeavoured to have made one of the party. It was, however, a satisfaction, that I had not left that part of the world at the time our travellers returned to their several homes: And though exceedingly rejoiced, I was not in the least surprized to hear that they had discovered the wreck of the *Grosvenor*: Yet I could hardly give credit to the friends of Van Reenen, when they told me through what an extent of country he and his companions had passed; the distance and difficulties appeared so great.

It was my desire to be favoured with a copy of the Journal: But my departure for England taking place before I could get possession of it, the brother of Mynheer Van Reenen very obligingly sent it to me: And such as it is, literally translated, being hardly any thing more than a daily account of distances travelled, and a few occurrences, it has been thought worthy the public eye, if it were merely to do away the prevailing idea, that some of the unfortunate sufferers are at this time remaining alive in the country where the ship was wrecked. To the friends and relations of those unfortunate people it must be a matter of great consolation, to be informed, in a direct manner, that they are no longer existing in a state of misery; but that a gracious end has relieved them from their sufferings; of which there is not the least reason to entertain a doubt.

I never could have been induced to have said thus much, were I not convinced of the truth of

as is easily gathered from the above it will appear that the same persons who were the first to be rescued were the last to be rescued and the last to be rescued were the first to be rescued

this assertion : Nor should I have placed my name to this publication, had it not, for the sake of authenticity, been thought, in some degree, necessary. It is hardly probable, indeed, that it ever would have been thought worthy of being communicated to the public, as the disaster of the *Grosvenor* is not now sufficiently recent to be interesting, and the sorrows occasioned by that accident might, by the operation of time, in a great measure, have subsided. But as it is to be feared, some late publications* may have renewed the painful feelings of those principally interested in the fate of the supposed survivors, the information contained in this *Journal* could not be suppressed.

The philosopher perhaps may regret, that in a journey so new in itself, and into a country per-

See * *Vaillant's Travels.* *Bligh's Voyage.* *Narrative*
of the Loss of the *Grosvenor*, compiled from the Examination of
John Hynes. *See* *ibid.*

fectly unknown and unfrequented by former travellers, a more minute account is not given : And particularly that distances were not more accurately ascertained, than merely by the vague computation made use of in the journal ; which must have been rendered still more difficult to ascertain by the mountains passed over, the precipices to be avoided, and the woods that it was necessary either to go round, or cut through. For which reason it is to be wished, that some one of the party had possessed a sufficient knowledge of practical astronomy, to have established their latitudinal situations at particular periods. But this is perhaps not so much to be wondered at, when we consider how very little it is attended to by travellers, who write whole volumes, and to whom it would be offering the highest offence, were they not to be considered of the first class of scientific men.

A person possessing the advantages of science

and information would have been enabled, in a journey of this kind, to have gratified the mind of the curious, with a description of the climate, natural history and productions of the country, and of the manners and customs of its inhabitants. But if Van Reenen has not satisfied them in these particulars, it is not without some obligations that we have received from him a plain unornamented detail of facts; a journal written solely as a memorandum for himself, and as a proof to others of what he and his companions had done.

It is but justice to him to observe, that his journal was never intended to be given to the world, and that he is entirely unapprized of its publication. It is hoped, however, that it will not be deemed void of objects sufficiently interesting to render it worthy perusal; at the same time that it bears testimony to the laudable motives and zeal of the author, who planned the expedition,

1811-12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

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and of the spirit and enterprize of every one engaged in the execution of it. Their exertions to relieve the misfortunes of our countrymen demand, at least, the publication of their endeavours, as the only means in our power of expressing our gratitude: And I am proud in the honour of feeling my wishes most cordially seconded by the President of the Royal Society, to whom the journal was submitted previous to its being given to the public.

Since I had the pleasure of receiving this journal, Sir Joseph Banks was so kind as to send me another copy, that was transmitted to Sir John M'Pherson by Mynheer Van de Graaff, the governor of the Cape of Good Hope, with a letter, acquainting Sir John, that the expedition was undertaken with his approbation, and lamenting that the travellers had not been able to discover any of the unfortunate sufferers remaining alive.

The map to illustrate the journal is compiled in the following manner.

The line of the sea coast, from the Cape of Good Hope to the mouth of the Great Fish river, is copied from a maritime survey begun in the year 1781, and finished in the year 1785*. The interior parts of the country, between the Cape and the above river, are copied from the journies of Sparman and Patterson, subservient to the distances mentioned by Van Reenen, and corrected by the line of the sea coast laid down from that survey.

*Sparman's place
mouth of G. F. R.
in Lat. 28° 15'
in the Map 1.*

* This maritime survey is the best chart of the southern extremity of Africa that has ever yet been made. There are reasons why it is necessary not to mention the channel through which it came into my hands. It will be an acquisition to the seaman, unless a more extensive chart of the soundings should make its appearance from Mr. Dalrymple, whose works will for ever insure to him the grateful reverence and respect of navigators of every country.

INTRODUCTION.

From the Great Fish river, towards the north east, the sea coast, bays, and mouths of rivers are an exact copy of a chart compiled by D'Apres de Mannevillette, in his Neptune Oriental: The course of Van Reenen's journey from that river to the spot where the Grosvenor was wrecked is made correspondent to it.

Throughout the journal the word hour is to be considered as distance, and not time. Travelers at the Cape of Good Hope reckon distance by hours: one hour being supposed equal to about a league.

If it had been possible to give the exact track Van Reenen travelled, it would have been right to have laid it down in the map upon that measurement. But as it is not practicable to trace every turn and winding of the way ; in order to ascertain, as well as is in our power, -how far to the north-east our travellers proceeded, whereby we

may know in what latitude the Grosvenor was wrecked, a straight line of 150 leagues and 2 miles (being two miles only allowed for each of the 226 hours travelled outward) was extended from the Great Fish river ; and where it intersected the line of the coast, there is marked the place of the wreck, in latitude 27° . But as the return home contains only 197 hours, the same mode of computation, by allowing two miles to each hour, brings the wreck into the latitude of 28° . It is more than probable that the ship was wrecked somewhere between these two latitudes : which is corroborated by the account given in the Journal, of Rio de la Goa being at the distance of forty or fifty hours.

All the rivers to the northward of the Great Fish river are inserted from the distances mentioned in that part of the journal, without any pretensions to geographical accuracy.

It is remarked that the rivers of the southern extremity of Africa are, in general, small and fordable, with very few exceptions.

London, 15th May,
1792.

E. RIOU.

A JOURNAL,

Kept by Jacob Van Reenen, on a journey to the place where the English ship the **GROSVENOR**, commanded by Captain **JOHN COXON**, was wrecked, on the 4th of August, in the year 1782, to discover if any of the unfortunate crew were still living: in which he was accompanied by the following persons; and on the 24th day of August, 1790, sat out from a place called Kaffer's Kuyls river, towards the river Anderadeira de Natal, or Cape Natal, where the ship was wrecked*.

Jan Andries Holtshausen,
 Hilgert Mulder,
 Lodewyk August Prins,
 Cornelis Jacobus Mulder,
 Tjaart van der Waldt,
 Pieter Lombart,
 Stephanus Scheepers,
 Hendrik Janssen van Rensburg,
 Philip Holtshausen,
 Ignatius Mulder,
 Pieter van der Waldt,
 Jacob Joubert.

* The Grosvenor, it will be found in the journal, was wrecked far more northerly than is generally supposed to be the situation of Cape Natal. But all that coast is indefinitely called Natal.

1790.
AUGUST.

Tuesday, 24th.
7 hours.

Jan Andries Holtshausen, Hilgert Mulder, Lodewyk August Prins, and myself Jacob Van Reenen, sat out from Kaffer's Kuyls river with four waggons, and in seven hours arrived at the little valley near the Gous river.

Wednesday, 25th.
7 hours.

We proceeded from the before-mentioned valley to the Lange Touw, and passed the Gous river.

At nine o'clock at night one of our baggage waggons was overturned, which obliged us to unharness. Had travelled seven hours this day.

Thursday, 26th.
7 hours.

By break of day, the waggon having been put to rights, we travelled on to the Klyne Paerde kraal*, which was again a seven hours journey.

Friday, 27th.
3 hours.

We were now at the beginning of the Hattaqua's kloof†, and had travelled only three hours towards the Groote Paerde kraal‡, when one of the hindermost fastenings of one of the baggage waggons broke, which was repaired at the house of Jacob Ruyter.

Saturday, 28th.
5 hours.

Thence we proceeded five hours, to the Savraana kraal.

Sunday, 29th.
8 hours.

From which place we journeyed on to the Was river, where Hilgert Mulder and Lodewyk Prins, taking the road through the Lange kloof, left us, and having agreed to meet at the Assegaye wood, on the other side of the Bosjesman's river, Jan Andries Holtshausen and myself took the route through the Caroo, as the nearest way. At ten o'clock this night one of

* Little Horse village.

† The word kloof signifies a passage between mountains.

‡ Great Horse village.

 1790.
 AUGUST.

the baggage waggons was again overturned; which accident happened between the Camnasie and Dooru rivers. We had this day travelled eight hours; and having put the waggon in order, proceeded.

At eight o'clock in the morning we forded the river Camnasie; and by the time it was dark, in a journey of eight hours, the Elephant river was passed.

Monday, 30th.
 8 hours.

Note. The Camnasie falls into the Elephant river.

We this day travelled seven hours, in the course of which we crossed the Elephant river six different times.

Tuesday, 31st.
 7 hours.

Note. As our route was to proceed along the banks of the Elephant river, we were very frequently under the necessity of crossing and recrossing it, in order to preserve the best track.

The Cangoos river discharges itself into the Elephant river.

 SEPTEMBER.

We, this day, crossed the Elephant river five times, when Holtshausen and myself left the waggons, and, mounting our horses, proceeded to the warm bath at Tjaart van der Waldt's, situated above the Elephant river. Here we saw the bath, which is very powerful and salutary for several diseases. Van der Waldt promised to meet us at Stephanus Scheepers's house in the Winter hock *, where we agreed to wait for him.

Wednesday, 1st.
 11 hours.

We had this day travelled eleven hours.

Returned to our waggons. Passed the river eight times to its source, and arrived at the dwelling of Anthony Nortie

Thursday, 2d.
 8 hours.

* Winter corner.

1790.

SEPTEMBER.

Lyd, which we left, and proceeded eight hours to the Capok kraal.

Note. The Elephant river discharges itself into the Gous river, and the Gous river into the sea in or about St. Catherine's bay.

Friday, 3d.
7 hours.

Departing from the Ganna kloof, and leaving the black rocks on our left, we took the way to the Winter hoek; and, having travelled seven hours, arrived at the deserted dwelling called Dieniedouw.

Saw several Terra Natal fowls.

Saturday, 4th.
5 hours.

Thence proceeded five hours farther, to a deserted dwelling called Koeye fonteyn*.

Sunday, 5th.

Were obliged to remain the whole of the day at this place, owing to a very heavy fall of rain.

Monday, 6th.
6 hours.

Travelled forward again, and in six hours arrived at the beginning of the Winter hoek.

Saw several tracks of spring bucks †.

Tuesday, 7th.
5 hours.

This day, in five hours, we arrived at the place of Stephanus Scheepers in the Winter hoek.

Wednesday, 8th.

Remained here all this day.

Thursday, 9th.

Tjaart van der Waldt and his son Pieter van der Waldt came to us.

Friday, 10th.

Preparing to depart on the next day.

Saturday, 11th.
7 hours.

Left this place in company with Jan Andries Holtshausen, Tjaart van der Waldt Pieter van der Waldt, and Stephanus

* Fonteyn signifies a spring.

† A small kind of deer.

1790.
SEPTEMBER.

Scheepers, and in seven hours arrived at the Groote * river, which falls into the Camtours.

Thence, for eight hours, through a fine meadow country, to the Wolves fonteyn.

Sunday, 12th.
8 hours.

From which place, in ten hours, we arrived at the Sunday river, which keeps its name until it falls into the sea, and is in this spot (the Caroo veld) quite dry.

Monday, 13th.
10 hours.

We were obliged to halt this day, as the river was too deep to pass.

Tuesday, 14th.

Forded the river to a little brook overgrown with thorns, and in five hours travelled over the Bruynjies heights in the Caroo veld.

Wednesday, 15th.
5 hours.

Thence onward seven hours to Bosjesmans river, through a country of fine long broken grass and small shrubs †.

Thursday, 16th.
7 hours.

Forded the Bosjesmans river, and, having travelled ten hours, arrived at the house of Hendrik Janssen van Rensburg.

Friday, 17th.
10 hours.

Here we rested. Jan Andries Holtshausen and myself, mounting our horses, rode to the Assegaye wood, the place of our general rendezvous, to see if the rest of our party were arrived.

Saturday, 18th.

It being very rainy weather, and none of our companions having yet joined us, we remained at the wood all day.

Sunday, 19th.

Three waggons of Cornelis Mulder, the waggon with the boat, and one belonging to Hilgert Mulder arrived ; and with

Monday, 20th.

* Great river.

† The grass of this part of the country grows to a very great height, and is very coarse ; and when dried by the heat of the sun, is beaten down and broken by wind and heavy rain.

1790.

SEPTEMBER.

them Ignatius Mulder and Philip Holtshausen, who told us that the rest of our companions, purposing to return the next day, had gone on horseback to the mouth of the Bosjesmans river, in order, if possible, to persuade Solomon Ferreira to accompany us. We immediately rode back to our waggons, to prepare every thing for the journey, having appointed the next rendezvous at the Brakke river.

- Tuesday, 21st. The whole of this day was employed in making preparations for our journey.
- Wednesday, 22d. Proceeded three hours to the Brakke river.
3 hours.
- Thursday, 23d. Here we rested, all our party being assembled excepting Jacob Joubert.
- Friday, 24th. Left the Brakke river with ten waggons, each provided with double teams*; fifty-six horses and forty armed Hottentots; and in four hours travelling arrived at the Little Fish river.
4 hours.
- Saturday, 25th. Four hours elapsed in getting the baggage, boat and waggons over the river; whence we proceeded three hours to the Great Fish river.
3 hours.
- Sunday, 26th. It was with great danger we crossed this last-mentioned river; after which, we arrived in four hours at the spring called Kruyers kraal, the boundary of the Christians and Kaffers.
4 hours.
- Monday, 27th. We this day got on five hours, to a little brook, to which we gave the name of Punch, as the weather being exceedingly cold, our punch, for that reason, was made rather strong.
5 hours.

* A team consists of twelve, fourteen, and sixteen oxen. And by double teams is meant two teams for each waggon, to serve for relays.

1790.
SEPTEMBER.

Saw a great quantity of game, and shot two male eelands*.

We travelled hence eight hours farther; and passing over a small brook called Caaga, came to a vast plain, extending as far as a river called Caapna, or fine meadows; which name it highly merits from its delightful situation. The whole country is intersected with rivulets capable of overflowing the adjacent meadows, and possesses every requisite for becoming a most convenient and charming settlement. It is well adapted for cattle, as it is covered with an abundance of long broken-down grass. We here met with a great quantity of different sorts of game. Shot two buffaloes.

Tuesday, 28th.
8 hours.

Proceeded six hours farther; but were under the necessity of halting to unharness, as old Holtshausen was taken exceedingly ill with the gravel.

Wednesday, 29th.
6 hours.

This day we travelled seven hours, to the Kat † river, or Kaffer's, or Hottentot's Hunca river, and arrived at the first Kaffer's kraal, where we were visited by several of those people.

Thursday, 30th.
7 hours.

In the evening we posted a night watch.

OCTOBER.

Passed another brook at the beginning of the Keis kamma, where several Kaffers came to us from their chief, Captain ‡ Sambee. We sent two of our people (Kaffers) to him, to ask permission to travel through his country, and that he would supply us with interpreters. Passed another small

Friday, 1st.
8 hours.

* A large and very handsome animal of the elk kind.

† Cat river.

‡ Captain is an appellation which has been given to the chiefs of districts or tribes by the colonists of the Cape. And by this title they are distinguished by their subjects.

1790.
OCTOBER.

brook and arrived at the Keis kamma, where we shot two birds, unknown to us: the Kaffer's name for them was Heemoe, which signifies "I see something." It is a bird about the size of a large blue heron, but perches in trees and woods, has a tuft of hair on its head, in the shape of a paint-brush, of a yellowish colour, with black stripes; the head or crown like black velvet, a blue neck like a heron, black and white wings, and long feet.

We had travelled this day eight hours.

Saturday, 2d.
7 hours.

Proceeded, and this day travelled seven hours; during which we saw several Kaffers. We came to the determination of leaving this country and getting over the Kaffer mountains as soon as possible, dreading otherwise the encountering delays, or worse consequences, as these people were at war with each other, Captain Sambee being opposed to Captain Jaccaa, who, with considerable loss, had been already twice beaten.

The two Kaffers that we had sent to Captain Sambee returned to us, with a message from the captain, expressing his sorrow that he could not come himself, owing to his being unwell; and, wishing us a good journey. Above all recommended to us particular caution respecting the nation with which he was then at war; informing us likewise that the country, to which we were destined, was dangerous and difficult to pass.

After having procured two Kaffers as guides, we crossed the river Keysana.

Sunday, 3d.
5 hours.

Ascended the mountain; and, after having got on five hours,

1790.
OCTOBER.

were under the necessity of stopping and unharnessing, on account of the rain.

We this day proceeded five hours; but, in order to effect a passage over the mountain, were obliged to cut our way through a large wood.

Monday, 4th.
5 hours.

Three Kaffers came to us with an intention to accompany us on our journey.

Having got over the mountain, and passed through a branch of the Black Key river, called Hommonpoefoege, we arrived in the Bosjesmans land, at a small brook, where the Bosjesmans had painted in the cavities of the rocks very natural resemblances of several wild beasts; amongst them was that of a soldier with a grenadier's cap.

Tuesday, 5th.
10 hours.

We this day had travelled the distance of ten hours, and had seen Bonte-bucks, two lions, and other wild beasts.

Travelling onward, we proceeded this day eight hours, to a great river called the White Key.

Wednesday, 6th.
8 hours.

Van der Waldt descried three Bosjesmans that were hunting; and pursuing them, laid hold of one, to whom we gave a bunch of beads and a piece of tobacco; and then letting him depart, he promised to return to us to shew us our way.

Here we rested; some of the party making excursions on horseback, with an intention to shoot sea cows*, but none were seen.

Thursday, 7th.

Crossing the last mentioned river, and pursuing our journey four hours, we came into a plain country.

Friday, 8th.
4 hours.

* The hippopotamus so called.

1790.

OCTOBER.

- Saturday, 9th.
5 hours. Rode five hours over a fine plain, interspersed with thorny bushes, and passed a river, which keeps the same name as the one before-mentioned.
- Sunday, 10th.
5 hours. We, this day, shot an eeland. Proceeded five hours farther, and passed another river of the same name as that last-mentioned.
- Monday, 11th.
5 hours. Travelled again the distance of five hours, and passed another river. In the mean while we shot two eelands and a male buffalo. Saw three tigers, and met with a great quantity of game.
- Tuesday, 12th.
5½ hours. In five hours and a half travelling we came to the river Somoe. This is the last that discharges itself into the Key; which is the largest river running through the Kaffer land, and has always checked the progress of former travellers*.
- Wednesday, 13th.
5 hours. Passed the river Somoe, situated in a beautiful country, and in five hours came into the country of the Tamboekies.
- Thursday, 14th.
7 hours. Arrived at the Doe, or Mud river, in a journey of seven hours.
- Friday, 15th.
4 hours. Pursued and shot three male elephants. Cut out the teeth of these animals, and proceeded the distance of four hours.
- Saturday, 16th.
9 hours. We this day travelled nine hours: and in the mean while rode out in search of more elephants, but found none. However, we saw and came up with a lion and a lioness,

* Excepting the party who went in search of the crew of the Grosvenor in the year 1783, in consequence of the account given of the wreck of that ship by the few seamen, who, by travelling along the sea coast, were so fortunate as to arrive at the Cape, about four months after the accident happened.

1790.
OCTOBER.

which had killed a buffalo. Tjaart van der Waldt shot the lioness.

We had only proceeded three hours from our last resting place, when we were obliged to halt and unharness, owing to heavy rain.

Sunday, 17th.
3 hours.

During our stay at this spot, several of the Tamboekies visited us ; amongst whom was the chief, Captain Joobie, and, subject to him, Captain Louve. We gave them presents, and procured from them three Tamboekies, as guides.

Monday 18th.

We still remained here, in order to shoot sea cows, of which we shot two, shewn to us by the Tamboekies. We were this day astonished at the arrival of Jacob Joubert, who came to us with a waggon, attended only by eight Hottentots. Great as our joy was, in having another Christian of our party, our astonishment was not less at the boldness of the enterprise, in following us through such unfrequented deserts, merely because he had promised to join us.

Tuesday, 19th.

We now harnessed again, and proceeded five hours, passing a river called Nabagana. In the course of the journey we saw a lion, which was the largest that the most experienced amongst us had ever seen. We pursued it ; but it escaped into the bushes, and we saw no more of it.

Wednesday, 20th.
5 hours.

Travelling onward five hours farther, and ascending a great height, we saw a large river called Bosjie, about the distance of two hours from us ; but to which we could not descend, owing to the steepness of the approach.

Thursday, 21st.
5 hours.

Here we halted ; and whilst some of us were employed

Friday, 22d.

1790.
OCTOBER.

in exploring the best route to take, others went in quest of sea cows, and shot five.

Saturday, 23d.
5 hours.

Harnessed and proceeded five hours again ; but were obliged to go a great way round about, in order to avoid precipices. It was by far the worst travelling we had as yet met with, owing to rocky hills and underwood.

Sunday, 24th.
5 hours.

Rode onward five hours to the river Bosjie, which comes from far inland.

We this day shot twelve sea cows.

Monday, 25th.
3 hours.

Forded the river, and proceeded three hours.

Tuesday, 26th.
7 hours.

We thence passed over a very steep mountain, and in seven hours came to a river called Nooga, having in the course of that distance shot four buffaloes and six elephants.

Wednesday, 27th.

Rested this day : in the mean while some of the party shot a male elephant.

Thursday, 28th.
6 hours.

Forded the last-mentioned river ; when we saw the sea about the distance of two hours off. Here we met with a horse, that had escaped from a party, which had, seven years ago, gone on a similar expedition in search of the unfortunate Englishmen. It belonged to one Daniel Potgieter, was quite wild, and, on our approach, ran into a herd of eelands : but we pursued him, and at length caught him : he was the next day quite docile, and was mounted.

We now passed the river Nodei ; and had this day travelled the distance of six hours.

Friday, 29th.
7 hours.

Saw several elephants, of which we shot seven. After travelling seven hours, we arrived at the river Tathaa ; where

1790.
OCTOBER.

we shot a sea cow: and were visited by two of the Tamboekies; which was something extraordinary, as, ever since the 18th instant, when we parted with Captain Joobie, we had seen no natives; this tract of country having been depopulated by the father of Captain Sambee, called Gagabee Camboesa, who drove them and all their cattle into his own territory. Such few as are at present remaining, hide themselves in the woods and caves, and live solely on sea weed, and whatever they can procure by hunting.

Having passed the last-mentioned river, which is a very large one, we came, in a journey of six hours, to the Dombie, or Young Maiden river. It was from this part of the country that formerly, before Gagabee laid it waste, the Kaffers and other nations got their women, in trading with the parents.

Saturday, 30th.
6 hours.

We travelled the distance of four hours; when we were under the necessity of stopping and unharnessing near the river Tasana, in order to explore a way. Several persons, seven years ago, got as far as this river, in search of the unfortunate crew of the Grosvenor, whence they returned back.

Sunday, 31st.
4 hours.

NOVEMBER.

Lodewyk Prins shot a sea cow in the nose, which afterwards came to the shore and was killed. Passed the river, and advanced only four hours, as we were obliged, in order to proceed, to cut through two woods.

Monday, 1st.
4 hours.

Thence we rode two hours, to a wood, where we shot an elephant; but were obliged to unharness, as I was taken excessively ill with violent pain in my limbs, and a lameness in

Tuesday, 2d.
2 hours.

1790.
NOVEMBER.

my right arm, which prevented my being any longer able to endure the motion of the waggon.

The weather was very unsettled, changing suddenly very often in the course of the day ; and for two hours we had a very severe thunder storm.

Wednesday, 3d.

We left this spot, and arrived on a height, whence we saw several villages of the Hambonaas, a nation quite different from the Kaffers; are of a yellowish complexion, and have long coarse hair frized on their heads like a turban. We sent four of our men to the chief, whose name is Camboosa, with a present of beads and a sheet of copper. Five of them came to us, to whom we gave small presents of beads. They told us, that subject to them was a village of *bastaard** Christians, who were descended from people shipwrecked on that coast, and of which, three old women were still living, whom Oemtonoue the Hambonaa captain had taken as his wives.

Thursday, 4th.
1 hour.

Proceeded an hour : when we were stopped by heavy rain ; but mounted our horses and rode to the before-mentioned village, where we found that the people were descended from whites, some too from slaves of mixed colour, and the natives of the East Indies. We also met with the three old women, who said they were sisters, and had, when children, been

* The Dutch word *bastaard*, as it is here used, signifies a bastard or mixed breed. The Cape people, for instance, call all those Hottentots, *bastaard* Hottentots, whose race has been intermixed with the slaves brought from the East Indies, Mosambique, &c.

1790.
NOVEMBER.

shipwrecked on this coast, but could not say of what nation they were, being too young to know at the time the accident happened. We offered to take them and their children back with us on our return; at which they seemed very much pleased.

We now travelled on seven hours; in which distance we passed the Little Mogasie river, on the banks of which is situated the *bastaard* village, where they have very extensive handsome gardens, planted with kaffer corn, maize, sugar canes, plantains, potatoes, black beans, and many other things: they had also some cattle.

Friday, 5th.
7 hours.

We crossed also the Great Mogasie river, where is the residence of the Hambonaa captain, Camboosa.

During this day we shot seven sea cows.

Proceeded seven hours, near to a very large river, called Sinwoewoe, or Sea Cow river, where we understood from the natives that there was still an Englishman remaining alive of the crew of the unfortunate ship the Grosvenor.

Saturday, 6th.
7 hours.

Arrived at the river, after two hours travelling; but were obliged to unharness, as it was too deep to pass, on account of the flood. We, therefore, waited for the ebbing of the tide: and in the mean while saw on the opposite bank the before-mentioned Englishman, to whom we immediately called. He spoke the Dutch language; but, from the width of the river, we could not make out what he said.

Sunday, 7th.
2 hours.

We forded the river; when this so called Englishman came

Monday, 8th.
2 hours.

1790.
NOVEMBER.

to us, and told us that he was a free man, and had sailed in an English ship from Malacca. He promised to conduct us to the place where the Grosvenor had been wrecked ; adding that there was nothing to be seen, excepting some cannon, iron ballast, and lead : he likewise said that all the unfortunate crew of that ship had perished ; some by the hands of the natives, and the rest by hunger.

The natives here brought to us some gold and silver, to exchange for red beads and copper articles, of which they seemed excessively fond.

This day we had only proceeded two hours.

Tuesday, 9th.
4 hours.

We now rode on four hours to a river called Woewanpoevoe, where we shot a sea cow.

Wednesday, 10th.
5 hours.

Passed this river and proceeded five hours farther, to the river Tanwoeta.

We now concluded, as this so called Englishman, who was to conduct us to the spot where the wreck lay, did not make his appearance, that he was a runaway slave from the Cape : in which conjecture we were confirmed by one of our *bastard* Hottentots called Moses, whom this man had asked who his master was ; and being answered by the Hottentot, that Jacob van Reenen was his master, he then asked if it was a son of old Jacob van Reenen, or Cootje, as my father was commonly called ; the Hottentot answered yes : he then told him he was well known at the Cape, and had a wife there and two children. The fear that we should lay hold of him

1790.
NOVEMBER.

and carry him with us, most probably prevented his ever returning to us again*.

We remained the whole of this day by the side of the river, it being too high to pass. Thursday, 11th.

Having passed the river, and travelled three hours, we arrived at a wood, through which we were to cut our way. Friday, 12th.
3 hours.

* There can be no doubt that this man is the person mentioned in the narrative of the loss of the Grosvenor, compiled from the examination of John Hynes, where he is called a Dutchman, by the name of Trout: to elucidate which, the following are extracts from that narrative.

“ They soon after were met by a party of the natives, consisting of about thirty, whose hair was made up in the form of sugar loaves, and their faces painted red. Among them was a man who spoke Dutch. His name, as they afterwards learnt, was Trout †. Having committed some murders among his countrymen, he had fled to these parts for refuge and concealment. When he came up to the English, he enquired who they were, and whither they were going; and on being told that they were English, had been cast away, and were endeavouring to find their way round to the Cape of Good Hope, he informed them that their intended journey would be attended with unspeakable difficulties; that they had many nations to go through, and many deserts to pass, exclusive of the dangers they would experience from the vast numbers of wild beasts they were sure to meet with; all which, he said, would render their attempt nearly impracticable.

“ This information did not in the least contribute to raise the spirits of the shipwrecked wanderers. They offered the man any money he should require, to conduct them to the Cape, but could not prevail upon him to undertake it. The rea-

† “ In the account given by Price, Lewis, Warmington, and Larey, the first party of the shipwrecked crew that reached England, this man is supposed, from his being of a lighter colour than the natives, and having straight hair, to be a Malayman. But it is much more probable that, according to Hynes, he was an inhabitant of the Dutch colonies, which extend almost to the borders of Caffraria; and his colour and hair pronounce him to be of that mixed breed, between the Dutch and Negroes, with which those settlements are known to abound. And this conclusion is undoubtedly confirmed by his name (Trout) which Hynes is able to give.

1790.

NOVEMBER.

Saturday, 13th.
2 hours.

We got through this last-mentioned wood, and were obliged soon after to cut through another, having proceeded only two hours.

Sunday, 14th.
3 hours.

We this day proceeded three hours, and crossed a river called Bogasie, at the mouth of which in the sea we shot two sea cows.

Here the natives brought us potatoes, sugar canes, corn, and beans, likewise gold and silver ; for which we exchanged with them beads.

Monday, 15th.
4 hours.

Travelling onward we passed a little brook near the sea side.

“ sons he gave were, that he was afraid of putting himself into the power of the Dutch.
“ Besides which, as he had a wife and children among the natives, he was well assured
“ they would never consent to let him go, if he was ever so much inclined to do it.

“ The next morning they were joined again by Trout, the Dutchman, who informed them that he had been on board the wreck, and had got from it a load
“ of iron, pewter, lead, and copper, which he was now carrying to his kraal. He
“ then enquired how they came to fall out with the natives, an account of which
“ he had received. He advised them to make no resistance in future, especially, as
“ from their not having any weapons of defence, all opposition would be ineffectual.
“ And he was of opinion that if they followed this advice they would meet with less
“ obstruction from them. He was dressed in a morning gown, belonging either
“ to the captain, or to one of the passengers ; and when he had held this short conversation, he took up his load of plunder and marched off. At this interview he
“ was quite alone.

“ They now arrived at a large village, where they found Trout, the Dutchman,
“ who shewed them his wife and child, and begged a piece of pork. He told them
“ that this was his place of residence ; and again repeated, that the natives would by
“ no means suffer him to depart, even if his inclination led him to return to his own
“ country.

“ He gave them further directions relative to their journey, and informed them
“ of the names of the places they had to go through, with the rivers they had to pass.
“ During this conversation they were surrounded by a great number of the natives.”

1790.
NOVEMBER.

Here Jan Andries Holtshausen had the misfortune to fall into a pit of burnt stakes*, by which he was terribly wounded in the palm of his left hand.

We now came to a height that we could not pass without great danger and difficulty; and where we learnt that the wreck was not far off. We therefore determined to halt; and to go on horseback to the spot, to see what could be discovered.

Jan Andries Holtshausen, Tjaart van der Walddt, Cornelis Mulder, Hilgert Mulder, and myself, with Ignatius Mulder, mounted our horses and rode the distance of one hour and a half: when Jan Andries Holtshausen and myself were obliged to return to our waggons, owing to the necessity there was of dismounting and leading our horses through a river, in order to proceed, the bed of which was full of holes and rocks: and as I was exceedingly troubled with great pain all over my limbs, and old Holtshausen, who had regarded his wound as a trifle, not having even applied a bandage to it, found his hand very painful, we neither of us dared venture on such an undertaking.

At our return to the waggons, we administered sweet oil to Holtshausen's wound, and made use of every other means in our

* A pit is dug, and large stakes are driven into the bottom that stand upright, with their upper end sharpened to a point that is hardened by fire. Branches of trees and grass are laid over the points so as to conceal them and the pit; by which the elephant is taken unawares, and falls into the snare. In this manner the natives kill that animal.

1790.
NOVEMBER.

power to assuage the pain ; but it still continued, and did not in the least abate.

At night our companions returned to us, and told us they had been at the spot where the ship was wrecked ; but had then found nothing of it remaining, except some cannon, iron ballast, and lead. They brought with them two pieces of spermaceti candle, and some fragments of English china*.

The wreck lay four hours from this spot, in which distance there were seven rivers to pass, for which we had no name.

We this day shot a sea cow.

Tuesday, 16th.

Some of our companions went again to the spot where the wreck lay, but saw nothing more than what has been already mentioned. Hilgert Mulder brought with him a piece of red sapanna wood †.

We this day shot two sea cows.

Wednesday, 17th.

On this day, with some others of the party, I rode to the above-mentioned spot ; but saw nothing but five cannons and a great quantity of iron ballast. It was plainly perceived, on a spot of ground between two woods, that people had made fires and sheltered themselves : likewise, on a rising ground between the two woods, was a pit, where things had been buried and dug out again : this confirming to us what the runaway slave had told us ; that every thing had been dug up and dispersed very far into the country. We also understood

* English white or yellow earthen ware, called so by the people of the Cape.

† By this name the Dutch call a wood, they bring from Japan, used in dying. It very much resembles the Brazil-wood. The French call it sapan.

1790.
NOVEMBER.

from the natives, that the greatest part of the goods had been conveyed to Rio de la Goa, to be there sold: which place, as well as we could learn, was from this spot a journey of four days, or of forty or fifty hours.

Tjaart van der Waldt, Hilgert Mulder, and Jacob Joubert rode along the sea side, about two hours farther to the northward than where the remains of the wreck lay; but could find nothing more than what has been already mentioned. Thursday, 18th.

It was now determined that we should return home; as, in the first place, several of our draught oxen had died, and many of those that remained were in a very sickly condition; besides, that old Holtshausen, from the excessive pain he suffered by the wound in his hand, became very impatient to get back.

The natives hereabouts expressed very great astonishment at our taking such great pains to come in search of the unfortunate crew. And the chiefs, and indeed the whole of them in general, promised that if any similar disaster should ever happen in future, they would protect and take care of the crew that might come on shore, and conduct them to us, if they could only be assured of obtaining beads, copper, and iron for so doing; which we promised.

It is to be observed, that to this place we had travelled three hundred and seventy-seven hours: which was two hundred and twenty-six hours beyond the limits of the Christian possessions; or rather so much beyond any Christian

1790.

NOVEMBER.

habitation. The distance from the Cape to the Great Fish river is two hundred and twenty-one hours: thus we computed that we were now distant from the Cape four hundred and forty-seven hours.

THE RETURN HOME.

FROM the place where the waggons halted we travelled the distance of twelve hours inland, on horseback ; during which we crossed seven rivers: the waggons, at the same time, proceeding homewards a journey of seventeen hours to the river Bogasie, where we caught some most delicious fish and oysters.

17 hours.

We this day continued our journey five hours farther.

Friday, 19th.

Passing the rivers Tanwoeta and Woewanpoevoe, in eight hours we arrived at the Sinwoewoe, or Sea Cow river.

5 hours.
Saturday, 20th.
8 hours.

We this day were under the necessity of halting, on account of the alarming indisposition of old Holtshausen, who was attacked with a locked jaw and violent convulsive fits, so that we expected his death every moment. At night our outposts gave an alarm of our being watched by the natives: upon which we fired several times in the air, and heard no more of them. That same day above two hundred of them had been with us, with gold and silver to barter: but we were now inclined to think that they only came with that pretext, in order to discover our force, and, if possible, to take an opportunity of surprising us when off our guard.

Sunday, 21st.

1790.
NOVEMBER.

During the day we shot four sea cows.

Monday, 22d.

Poor old Holtshausen's illness was now increasing so rapidly, that we were obliged to sit up and attend upon him the whole night.

Tuesday, 23d.

This afternoon, at half past four o'clock, he expired. We, immediately, with some of the plank of the waggons that was most convenient for the purpose, sat about preparing a coffin.

Wednesday, 24th.
8 hours.

At half past eight o'clock this morning we interred the body of our friend, under a large kaffer-tree standing alone, on which we all cut our names: and departing, passed the river Sinwoewoe; and in an eight hours journey arrived at the Great Mogasie river.

Thursday, 25th.

Here we were obliged to halt, on account of a heavy fall of rain.

Friday, 26th.
8 hours.

Hence we passed the Great and Little Mogasie rivers; and after travelling eight hours, arrived at the *bastaard* Christian village. I would now have taken the three old women with us; to which they seemed well inclined, as appearing much to wish to live amongst Christians; but mentioned their desire, before they could accomplish such a plan, of waiting till their harvest, to gather in their crops: adding that, for this reason, they would at present rather remain with their children and grandchildren; after which, with their whole race, to the amount of four hundred, they would be happy to depart from their present settlement. I concluded by promising that I would give a full account of them to the government of the Cape, in order that they might be removed from

1790.
NOVEMBER.

their present situation. It is to be observed, that on our visit to these women, they appeared to be exceedingly agitated at seeing people of their own complexion and description*.

We left this village, and travelled three hours, to a wood, where we shot three elephants, the teeth of which we cut out.

Saturday, 27th.
3 hours.

Proceeded five hours; in the course of which we passed the river Tasana, and shot four elephants. We also caught a young one, and tied it to one of the waggons: but were, in a very short time, under the necessity of killing it, as its cries brought about us such a number, that we were fearful of being trodden to death: and during the night a very large herd of them passed by us.

Sunday, 28th.
5 hours.

We this day halted on account of the heavy rain; during which several of our oxen died.

Monday, 29th.

We now passed the river Dombie, and travelled eight hours.

Tuesday, 30th.
8 hours.

Lost many more of our oxen. Passed the river Tathaa; in which we shot five sea cows.

DECEMBER.

We employed ourselves this day in cutting up and salting the meat of the sea cows, that we had shot the preceding evening. By the time we had accomplished this, a large male elephant came up to the waggons. We instantly pursued and

Wednesday, 1st,

* This family, it is easy to be conceived, may have given occasion to the answers made by the Kaffers, whenever they have been questioned respecting what they knew of the existence of the Grosvenor's people: and their answers, imperfectly understood by persons not understanding their language, may have given rise to the observations of Vaillant, and to what is mentioned by Bligh of Colonel Gordon. *see below*

1790.
DECEMBER.

attacked him ; when, after having received several shot, and that he had twice fallen, he crept into a very thick thorny underwood. Thinking that we had fully done for him, Tjaart van der Waldt, Lodewyk Prins, and Ignatius Mulder advanced to the spot where he was hid ; when he rushed out, in a furious manner, from the thicket, and with his trunk catching hold of Lodewyk Prins, who was then on horseback, trod him to death ; and driving one of his tusks through his body, threw him into the air to the distance of thirty feet. The others, perceiving that there was no possibility of escaping on horseback, dismounted and crept into the thicket to hide themselves. The elephant having nothing now in view but the horse of van der Waldt, followed it for some time ; when he turned about, and came to the spot near to where the dead body lay, looking about for it. At this instant our whole party renewed the attack, in order to drive him from the spot ; when, after that he had received several shots, he again escaped into the thickest of the wood. We now thought that he was far enough off, and had already begun to dig a grave for our unfortunate companion ; at which we were busily employed, when the elephant rushed out again, and driving us all away, remained by himself there on the spot. Tjaart van der Waldt got another shot at him, at the distance of an hundred paces. We every one of us then made another attack upon him ; and, having now received several more bullets, he began to stagger ; then falling, the Hottentots, with a shot or two more, killed him as he lay on the ground.

1790.
DECEMBER.

The fury of this animal is indescribable. Those of our party who knew any thing of elephant hunting, declared that it was the fleetest and most furious they had ever beheld.

The Hottentots told us that the elephant's custom is, whenever attacked, never to leave a dead body, until, by piecemeals, they have swallowed the whole carcase: and that they themselves had seen a Hottentot killed much in the same manner as our friend, of whose body they never could find the least remains. This, probably, would have been the fate of our companion, had we not made so severe an attack on the elephant.

We now sat about finishing the grave, and, at half past six o'clock in the afternoon interred the body of the unfortunate Lodewyk Prins.

We now proceeded, and during this day got on eight hours and a half, in the course of which we passed the river Nodei, and shot a buffalo.

Thursday, 2d.
8½ hours.

Travelled onward six hours, and passed the river Nooga.

Shot two elephants, and one sea cow.

Friday, 3d.
6 hours.

We this day arrived, in a journey of eight hours, with very great difficulty, at the river Bosjie; and which we should not have accomplished, had I not harnessed four of my saddle horses to one of the waggon: to enable us, though slowly, to move on, we were likewise under the necessity of throwing away many of our elephants teeth. One of the waggon had but eight oxen, another six; not one that had a tolerable team to draw it. So that, what with the distress of not being able

Saturday, 4th.
8 hours.

1790.
DECEMBER.

to proceed for want of cattle, and the melancholy reflection of having lost two of our companions in a very unfortunate manner, we were in a very lamentable situation.

Sunday, 5th. This day was spent in getting all our baggage over the river in the boat.

We shot two sea cows.

Monday, 6th. Having passed the river, we proceeded three hours farther.

3 hours.
Tuesday, 7th. We got on this day seven hours, and were obliged to travel
7 hours. very gently, as the oxen were continually failing, and some dying. And as it was with the utmost difficulty we moved, it was determined that Jacob Joubert should be immediately dispatched into the country of Captain Joobie the Tambookie, to endeavour to obtain some oxen.

Wednesday, 8th. We this day saw several elephants.
6½ hours.

Jacob Joubert came back to us, bringing with him three oxen, which he had purchased. Unaccustomed as they were to the yoke, having never yet drawn, we were under the necessity of immediately harnessing them.

Travelled six hours and a half this day.

Thursday, 9th. We hence proceeded by a different road, three hours higher
8 hours. up in the country than that by which we had come, being much more even, shorter, and in every respect better travelling; and, after a journey of eight hours, crossed the river Nabagana.

Friday, 10th. Thence we got on eight hours farther.
8 hours.

Saturday, 11th. Travelled six hours: passed the river Somoe.
6 hours.

Sunday, 12th. We this day shot four eelands.
3 hours.

1790.
DECEMBER.

Could only proceed three hours: and as we found that it was no longer possible to get on, for want of oxen; in order to avoid leaving our waggons behind us, having already thrown away a great part of our baggage, it was agreed that Hendrik van Rensburg, with some Hottentots on horseback, should proceed as fast as possible to the Bosjesmans river, to procure a number of draught oxen.

Travelled onward three hours.

Monday, 13th.
3 hours.

We now found the weather exceedingly cold; full as much as if it had been in the depth of winter; which I can only suppose to be occasioned by the height of the mountains we were in.

We halted this day, in order to refresh.

Tuesday, 14th.

Finding it necessary to make this another resting day, some of the party rode on horseback to the White Keys river, where they shot fourteen sea cows.

Wednesday, 15th.

We were employed the whole of this day in cutting up the abovementioned animals: the half of the best part of the meat we left behind*, as it was necessary to load ourselves as little as possible; the oxen, we had now remaining, being so exceedingly weak.

Thursday, 16th.

This day we passed the White Keys river, and proceeded five hours.

Friday, 17th.
5 hours.

Thence seven hours: in which distance we shot two eelands.

Saturday, 18th.
7 hours.

* The parts of this animal most esteemed are the fat from the feet and the ribs, which is more firm and gelatinous than that of other animals.

1790.

DECEMBER.

Sunday, 19th.
8 hours.

We now passed the Black Key river ; having travelled, in the course of the day, eight hours.

Monday, 20th.
8½ hours.

Pursuing our journey, we arrived in the Bonte-buck plain, and shot several bonte-bucks*.

Getting on eight hours and a half, we passed two more rivers, which discharge themselves into the Black Key, and have the same name : which name that river has acquired from the rocks about it being of that colour.

Tuesday, 21st.
9½ hours.

Proceeded nine hours and a half ; and crossing the Kaffer mountain, came into the country of the great Kaffers of Cap-
tain Sambee. Here we had the satisfaction of meeting with Jan Vioen and Pieter van Voorn, who had brought with them the draught oxen that we had sent for.

Wednesday, 22d.
7 hours.

Travelling seven hours farther homeward, we passed the river Keys Kamma, and also another small river running into it.

Thursday, 23d.
7 hours.

This day we passed the Kat, or Hunca river, and, in seven hours, the Little Doorn river†.

Friday, 24th.
8 hours.

Hence we proceeded eight hours farther, to the river Caapna.

Saturday, 25th.
11 hours.

Crossed the river Caaga, which runs into the Caapna, that falls into the Great Fish river ; and arrived, after a day's journey of eleven hours, to our no small joy, once more at a Christian habitation, the dwelling of Willem Bota.

Sunday, 26th.
7½ hours.

Thence we passed the Great and Little Fish rivers ; and

* A large animal of the deer kind.

† Thorn river.

 1790. 1791.
 DECEMBER.

the Kamina Dagga, the dwelling of Andries Dreyer : and in seven hours and a half we came to the place of Hendrik Janssen van Rensburg, on the banks of the Bosjesmans river.

Here we staid all night ; when Honoratus Moynier, the secretary of the district of Rynet, arrived. Monday 27th.

We now took leave of each other ; and at two o'clock in the morning Tjaart van der Waldt, with his son Pieter, Hilgert Mulder, and myself, leaving the oxen, and putting our horses to the waggon, rode the distance of twenty-two hours, to the Sunday river. Tuesday, 28th.
22 hours.

Thence we proceeded fourteen hours, to the river Naraa. Wednesday, 29th.
14 hours.

Then travelling twenty-six hours, we passed the Groote river, as far as under the mountain Erenkroon. Thursday, 30th.
26 hours.

After which we went on six hours farther, to the dwelling of Antonie Nortier, above the Elephant river. Friday, 31st.
6 hours.

We now rode to the bath near the Elephant river ; where we arrived after a journey of eight hours, at the house of Tjaart van der Waldt. JANUARY.
Saturday, 1st.
8 hours.

At this place we remained the two following days : and,

The next day, after we had taken leave of each other, Hendrik Mulder and myself proceeded ten hours, to the place of Frederick Boota on the banks of the Elephant river. Tuesday, 4th.
10 hours.

This day we travelled twenty hours, to a deserted dwelling near the Hattaquas kloof. Wednesday, 5th.
20 hours.

And passing the kloof, arrived by a journey of twenty hours at the Haagel kraal, the place of John Marx. Thursday, 6th.
20 hours.

Thence we departed ; and passing the Gous, the Wal- Friday, 7th.
26 hours.

1791.
JANUARY.

vis*, and Kaffer Kuyl's rivers, safely arrived, after a journey of twenty-six hours, to my great satisfaction, at my place on the Kruys river.

In our return home, from the place where we discovered the remains of the wreck of the Grosvenor, we had travelled only one hundred and ninety-seven hours to the Great Fish river; which computation makes the distance from the wreck to the Cape to be four hundred and eighteen hours.

Every one of our waggons, during this expedition, had been once or oftener overturned: which I mention, that it may be more readily conceived what troublesome and difficult ways we had to encounter.

It is worthy observation, that all the rivers mentioned in this journal were found to run from the northward, in a southerly direction into the sea.

This expedition was planned by me, with the previous knowledge of the governor Van de Graaff, in pursuance of whose command it met with the approbation of the landrost of the district of the county of Rynet. It was undertaken with the view of discovering if there still remained alive any of the

* Whale river.

English women, as had been reported, that were shipwrecked in the Grosvenor on that part of the coast in the year 1782, that we might have relieved them from a miserable situation ; which was the only motive for undertaking the journey. But to our sorrow, we could find no soul remaining : and we are fully persuaded, that not one of the unfortunate crew is now alive. I was informed by a Malay or Boganese slave, who spoke Dutch, and had, some years before, run away from the Cape, that two years ago the cook of that ship was alive ; but that catching the small-pox, he then died *.

(Signed) JACOB VAN REENEN.

*Cape of Good Hope,
23d June, 1791.*

* Had the party that sat out in search of these shipwrecked people in the year 1783, prosecuted their journey with the same degree of zeal and resolution that our travellers have manifested, it is possible they might have discovered and relieved some that have since perished. Yet, as they could not have arrived at the place of the wreck in less than six months after the disaster happened, even had they gone out immediately on being informed of it by those few seamen who fortunately got to the Cape, there is no great probability for supposing, after such a length of time had elapsed, that any great number of the unfortunate sufferers could be remaining alive.

There is, therefore, less reason for lamenting the disappointment incurred by the failure of the expedition in 1783, as probably only very few were then surviving. But what we have to regret is, that perhaps the failure of the endeavours of the unfortunate crew to save their lives was owing to their own misconduct. It is too often the case, that disorder and confusion are the consequence of extreme distress, and that despair, seizing on the unprincipled mind, hurries it on to a subversion of all good order and discipline : so that when the joint efforts of the whole are most necessarily requisite for the general good, it is then that each desponding thoughtless wretch acts from an impulse of the moment, which ever way his agitated tumultuous feelings direct him, and, from an erroneous idea of self-interest, or, wonderful as it may

appear, from a desire of gratifying a rebellious and turbulent spirit at a time when it can be done with impunity, is always ready to overturn every plan that may be proposed or prosecuted by his superiors and the considerate few that may be of the party.

Such must have been, and such indeed we are told was, the situation of the crew of the Grosvenor, subsequent to their shipwreck.

Though, it may be said, it is a very easy matter to see errors when the consequences have happened, it will not surely be too much to assert, that when this ship's crew were once safely on shore, with the advantages of what articles they could procure from the wreck, their situation, however deplorable, could, by no means, be considered as hopeless. For had a chosen body of ten or twenty marched four, five, or six days to the northward, they must have fallen in with Rio de la Goa, where it seldom happens that there is not to be met with a French or Portuguese slave trading ship. But, allowing that Captain Coxon was very much out in his reckoning, and that he supposed himself much more to the southward than he was, which determined him to proceed to the Cape of Good Hope, they might then have existed, in that climate, on the sea coast, sheltered by huts, until ready to set out; and, most assuredly, by persevering in good order and discipline, and conducting themselves with firmness, resolution, and conciliatory manners to the natives, they might have proceeded gradually and in safety to the southward, into the territory of the Dutch.

Had the crew continued under the orders and discipline of their officers, either of these objects might have been accomplished by men whose minds were not totally given up to despair: or they might have subsisted there on what provisions they could procure from the wreck, together with what they would purchase from the natives with the articles that the remains of the ship contained in abundance, besides what fish they might catch, until a boat could be constructed and sent to solicit assistance from the Cape, which they would have soon received.

There is very great reason to suppose, that the attempts made by these unfortunate people to get to the Cape, may have been thwarted by the villainy of the man mentioned in the narrative of the loss of the Grosvenor, by the name of Trout, who, when all things are considered, must be undoubtedly the same person that in the journal is supposed to be a runaway slave from the Cape. His unwillingness to have any intercourse with Van Reenen's party, to whom he might have been highly useful, as he spoke Dutch, and by whom he certainly would have been amply rewarded for his services, points him out as a person very much to be suspected of having done what he was afraid of being punished for.

These reflections have been extended by considering the circumstances the shipwrecked people were placed in; from all which it may be fairly concluded that the

greatest. It might have effected a return to their native country, had any idea of the advantages of discipline and subordination guided them.

It is to be hoped, that the fatal consequences attending disorderly behaviour in these calamitous situations will, in time, impress on the mind of the seaman this incontrovertible truth, *that his only hope of safety must depend upon his obedience.*

To those who may have the misfortune of being shipwrecked on that coast, the information contained in this journal may prove of the greatest utility; as it will hold out the possibility of better success, in the attempts they may make to extricate themselves, than that which attended the weak efforts of the unfortunate crew of the Grosvenor.

AGREEMENT.

WE* the undersigned declare, as men of honour, that we will implicitly conform to the articles hereunder mentioned.

I. That we acknowledge Mynheer Jan Andries Holts-hausen as our chief in this journey, and will obey him in every thing that is just and reasonable.

II. That we will in no wise conduct ourselves contrary to the laws and regulations of the Honourable Company, to whom we will deliver what elephants teeth we may procure, conformable to their orders.

III. That all the articles purchased by us, according to the inclosed lists, shall be in common to us all; and likewise, when such articles are disposed of, an exact account shall be rendered, and each receive his respective share.

IV. Should any persons be disposed and willing to accompany us, and to serve with us, they will be entitled to a similar share, and proper notice will be given to government thereof.

V. Before that the first cost of the articles purchased is deducted from the sum arising from the sale thereof, and the remaining sum is divided in equal shares, —

VI. ————— the elephants teeth shall be divided

* This copy of the agreement entered into by the travellers, previous to their beginning the journey, was received by Sir Joseph Banks, annexed to the copy of Van Reenen's journal, which the governor Van de Graaff sent to Sir John M'Pherson.

in nine shares, father and son to be allowed one share only between them.

VII. That none of us, be he who he may, shall secrete or withhold any thing that he may find, shoot, or traffic for ; but shall produce and bring the same forward to us the undersigned. Should any one be guilty of so doing, we shall denounce such person as dishonourable and ungentleman-like, and expose him accordingly.

These articles having been all approved of by us, in testimony of our good faith we have severally signed our respective names.

(Signed)

J. A. Holtshausen,
H. Mulder,
J. van Reenen,
J. Mulder,
L. A. Prins,
P. Lombart,
Tjaart van der Waldd,
H. Jans. van Rensburg,
S. Scheepers,
P. R. Holtshausen,
J. Mulder,
P. van der Waldd.

Agrees with the original.

(Signed)

A. FAURE.

